I

DOWNHAM MARKET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

FOR THE YEAR 1970

DR. J. McD. HANLEY, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P., & S., D.P.H.

DOWNHAM MARKET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Members of the Health and Planning Committee:-

Chairman - Mr. J.R. Bostock

Mr. H.E. Brett	Mr. L.H. Brown
Mr. A.E. Clarke	Mr. R.S. Goodrum
Mr. J.J. Reed	Mr. J.E. Tasman
Mr. R.R. Taylor	Mr. J.D. Walmsley

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority:-

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr.J.McD.Hanley, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P., & S., D.P.H.,
Local Health Sub Office,
48 Howdale Road,
Downham Market. Tel: Downham Market 3241

Also holds the appointments of:-

County Departmental Medical Officer,
Medical Officer of Health to Downham Rural District Council,
Medical Officer of Health to Marshland Rural District Council,
Medical Officer of Health to King's Lynn Borough Council,
Medical Officer of Health to Freebridge Lynn Rural District Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

D.R. Ford, Esq.,
Council Offices,
Town Hall,
Downham Market. Tel: Downham Market 3342

Mr.Chairman, and members of the Council, I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1970.

Vital Statistics

These show that the population is virtually static. Only 40 persons moved into the area last year.

There were two infant deaths, and this has naturally affected our statistics unfavourably, but it is important to realise that the two deaths are the basic factor behind the figures.

Vaccination and Immunisation

The co-operation of parents with our staff to procure the immunisation of our school children is good and the numbers so protected are satisfactory.

The results of tests for sensitivity to tuberculous infection show that there is very little infection at all, and this merely endorses our results for the past five years or so.

Measles and rubella vaccination are now part of our normal programme. Girls in their 13th year receive rubella vaccination. This single injection seems to give life-long immunity to rubella, and protects against any possibility of congenital defects from rubella infection in the babies of mothers so protected.

Health Education

As in previous years we are continuing our efforts to inform the public about all aspects of healthy living and the avoidance of disease and its effects.

The schools and child health clinics are our main avenues of instruction and information as formerly.

Obesity in Children

This problem of malnutrition from excess feeding is difficult to tackle because eating habits are so long established in a family that change requires a strong and continued effort. To many parents a fat child is a credit to parental care and sentiment and they refuse to see anything unhealthy in this condition.

As yet we can only hope for aid from the most intelligent parents who are aware of the present climate of opinion in health matters, but it is unlikely that we shall have more success until more parents realise the significance of early obesity.

J.McD. Hanley
Medical Officer of Health.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b29167577

Water Supply

The following details of water supply have been received from the Wisbech and District Water Board.

Water Analyses 1970 - Downham Urban District

Frequent bacteriological examinations have been undertaken during 1970 on samples from the Board's sourceworks and the distribution system in this area. The results have been of a very high standard. Many chemical ayalyses have also been carried out.

All new mains were sterilised samples taken and bacteriological examinations made before the mains were put into service. No connections were permitted until the water in the mains was of of the highest standard of purity.

A sample taken on the 2nd December, 1970 from the 18" main at Marham Pumping Station (Marham mixed treated water) on which a fluoride estimation was carried out, had a fluoride content of 0.02 parts per million (as F).

There were no cases of contamination of the water supply in Downham Urban District during 1970.

SUMMARY OF EXAMINATIONS AND ANALYSES

	Bacteriological Examinations			Chemical Analyses
Samples Taken	No.of Tests Taken	No.of Tests Negative	No.of Tests Positive	
Board's Works Raw Waters	121	114	7	
Board's Works Treated Waters	255	255	0	
Taps (Consumers')	53	53	0	
Totals	429	422	7	65

Total of all examinations and analyses = 494

Out of the total of treated water samples and samples taken from consumers' taps 100% were negative on examination for organisms of the coliform group. This represents a continued very high standard of bacterial purity.

J.S. COLLINS,

Chemist and Bacteriologist.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1970

Area in acres	1,003
Population 1931	2,465
Population 1970 (Estimated)	3,380
LIVE BIRTHS	58
Rate per 1,000 population	18.7
" for Administrative County	16.1
" for England and Wales	16.0
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Births	3.0
DEATHS (all causes)..	65
Rate per 1,000 population	14.00
" for Administrative County	10.4
" for England and Wales	11.7
STILL BIRTHS	NIL
Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still Births ..	NIL
" for Administrative County	13
" for England and Wales	13
TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS	58
INFANT DEATHS (deaths under 1 year)	2
INFANT MORTALITY RATES	
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total Live Births	34
" for Administrative County	15
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Births	36
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	NIL
NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total Live Births)	17
EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total Live Births))	17
PERI-NATAL MORTALITY RATE (Still Births and Deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total Live and Still Births)	17
MATERNAL MORTALITY (including Abortion)	
Number of Deaths	NIL
Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still Births ..	NIL

Section A

1. County Medical Services

(a) District Nurses

This year's report does not include names of Nurses showing Parishes and Villages served. There are quite obviously changes throughout the year and current information will be readily supplied by the Local Health Sub-Office (Tel. Downham Market 3241 & 2).

(b) Health Visitors

This service is at present undergoing changes with Health Visitors on attachment to General Practitioners. Until the whole structure has become stabilized it is obviously impracticable to give detailed information. Again this will be supplied on request to the Local Health Sub-Office.

(c) Ambulance and Hospital Car Services

All Ambulances are now under overall supervision by the Ambulance Control Centre, County Hall, Norwich.

The Area is covered by the Ambulance Sub-Control Centre, Wellesley Street, King's Lynn. Telephone King's Lynn 4686 and Emergency King's Lynn 4298/9.

Infectious Diseases cases are conveyed by King's Lynn or Norwich Infectious Disease Ambulances.

The Hospital Car Service is administered from the Ambulance Sub-Control Centre, Wellesley Street, King's Lynn (Telephone King's Lynn 3503 & 3910).

(d) Child Health Clinics

Downham Market - 2nd Thursday of each month 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

A Medical Officer is in attendance at the above Sessions.

(e) Home Help Service

Applications for Home Help assistance should be made to the Area Social Services Officer, Social Services Dept., The Granaries, Nelson Street, King's Lynn. This service is expanding steadily.

(f) Vaccination and Immunisation

Shown below are figures for immunisations carried out by general practitioners and medical staff in my Local Health Area during 1970. This area also embraces Downham Rural and Marshland Rural Districts.

Smallpox Vaccination

Primary Vaccination		Total	Revaccination		Total
Under 5	5 - 15		Under 5	5 - 15	
285	14	299	10	32	42

Tetanus

Primary courses		Total	Reinforcing Doses		Total
Under 8	8 - 15		Under 8	8 - 15	
1060	35	1095	731	410	1141

Whooping Cough

Primary courses		Total	Reinforcing Doses		Total
Under 8	8 - 15		Under 8	8 - 15	
901	-	901	171	-	171

Diptheria

Primary courses		Total	Reinforcing Doses		Total
Under 8	8 - 15		Under 8	8 - 15	
1048	17	1065	709	126	835

Poliomyelitis

Primary courses		Total	Reinforcing Doses		Total
Under 8	8 - 15		Under 8	8 - 15	
939	20	959	669	320	989

B.C.G. Vaccination

Number given the preliminary skin test	Number vaccinated	Number referred for Chest X-ray
433	397	-

Measles Vaccination

Under 8	8 - 15	Total
421	27	448

Rubella Vaccination

Females 13 - 14
218

2. General Medical Services

Norfolk Executive Council, Horse Fair House, 17 St. Faith's Lane, Norwich. Clerk F.H. Adams Esq.

3. Venereal Disease Clinic

West Norfolk and King's Lynn Hospital.

Males: Tuesday 5.30 p.m. - 7.00 p.m.
Friday 4.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.

Females and Children: Tuesday 3.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.
Friday 3.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

4. Disinfection and Disinfestation

Treatment of premises and articles is carried out by the Senior Public Health Inspector's Staff.

5. Laboratory Services

(a) Public Health Laboratory, Bowthorpe Road, Norwich. Under the direction of Dr. I.M. Dowsett.

(b) Public Analyst, Dr. Eric Wood, Ph.D., A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C., Clarence House, 6 Clarence Road, Norwich.

(c) Public Health Laboratory, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.

STATISTICAL TABLE 1970

Section B

TABLE NUMBER 1

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks & Under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS								
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over
MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, STOMACH	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, INTESTINE	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, LUNG, BRONCHUS	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
MALIGNANT NEOPLASM, UTERUS	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
LEUKAEMIA	M	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
ISCHAEMIC HEART DISEASE	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	4	1
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	3
OTHER FORMS OF HEART DISEASE	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
CEREBROVASCULAR DISEASE	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	4
OTHER DISEASES OF CIRCULATORY SYSTEM	F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
INFLUENZA	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
PNEUMONIA	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
BRONCHITIS AND EMPHYSEMA	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
OTHER DISEASES OF RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	M	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PEPTIC ULCER	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
OTHER DISEASES OF DIGESTIVE SYSTEM	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
HYPERPLASIA OF PROSTATE	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
DISEASES OF MUSCULO-SKELETAL SYSTEM	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
OTHER CAUSES OF PERINATAL MORTALITY	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SYMPTOMS AND ILL DEFINED CONDITIONS	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
ALL OTHER ACCIDENTS	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
SUICIDE AND SELF-INFLICTED INJURIES	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	36	1	1	-	1	-	1	2	1	4	11	14
	F	29	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	7	16

NOTIFICATION OF DISEASES - 1970

TABLE NUMBER 2

Notification in Age Groups

DISEASE	AGES													Total
	Under 1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-	Age Unknown	
MEASLES	-	5	4	8	10	35	2	1	1	-	-	-	1	67
DYSENTERY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
PNEUMONIA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	5	4	8	10	35	2	1	1	-	-	-	1	68

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES - 1970

TABLE NUMBER 3

(other than Tuberculosis)

DISEASE	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEP.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	TOTAL
MEASLES	-	-	-	45	20	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	67
DYSENTERY	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
PNEUMONIA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	-	-	45	20	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	68

TABLE NUMBER 2

NOTIFICATION OF DISEASES - 1970

Notification in Age Groups

DISEASES	AGES																		Total
	Under 1	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	55-	65- Over						
MEASLES	-	5	11	3	10	35	2	1	1	-	-	-	1						67
DYSENTERY	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-							1
PNEUMONIA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-						-
TOTALS	-	5	11	3	10	35	2	1	1	-	1	-	1						68

TABLE NUMBER 3

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES - 1970

(other than Tuberculosis)

DISEASES	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEP.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	TOTAL
MEASLES	-	-	-	15	20	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	57
DYSENTERY	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
PNEUMONIA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	-	-	15	20	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	58

NEW CASES OF AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS - 1970

TABLE NUMBER 4

Age In Years	NEW CASES				DEATHS				TOTAL
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Under 15									
15 - 35									
35 & over				NIL					
TOTALS									